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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1782
INFO RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 1144
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0428
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0268

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 000380

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/ELA AND IO/RHS (OSTERMEIER AND PATEL)
GENEVA FOR CASSAYRE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/03/2029
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNHRC](#) [EG](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
PARTICIPATION AND DURBAN REVIEW CONFERENCE POSTURE

REF: A. STATE 18282
[1](#)B. STATE 14201
[1](#)C. GENEVA 133
[1](#)D. CAIRO 321

Classified By: ECPO Mincouns William R. Stewart for reason 1.4 (b).

[1](#)1. (C) On March 3, we demarched MFA Deputy Director for Human Rights Omar Shalaby regarding the U.S. decisions on resuming participation as an observer at the UN Human Rights Council, and on the Durban Review Conference (ref A). We also delivered the Cairo-specific points per ref A. On Durban, Shalaby said the GOE wants to resolve outstanding U.S. concerns so that the U.S. can re-engage in the Durban process. Shalaby noted that the GOE may be able to accept a general paragraph reaffirming the 2001 Durban Declaration and Program of Action (DDPA), as opposed to specific reaffirmation of all DDPA elements. Shalaby said "it was more likely than not" that the GOE would agree to the removal of slavery reparations language that goes further than the DDPA. Shalaby said the GOE expects the text length will decrease, but he requested U.S. flexibility on the number of pages.

[1](#)2. (C) Shalaby said that MFA Deputy Assistant Minister for Human Rights Wael Aboulmagd, who arrives in Geneva March 3, will be prepared to present ideas to U.S. interlocutors on bridging the gaps between the U.S. and Egyptian positions. Shalaby emphasized that Aboulmagd will not have specific textual language to propose, but that he will be interested in discussing ways for the GOE and USG to resolve differences on the draft outcome document.

[1](#)3. (C) Shalaby welcomed the U.S. decision to resume participation in the UN Human Rights Council as an active observer, and said that the GOE believes U.S. engagement is positive for the council.

SCOBAY